

Rotary District 6910 Youth Protection Policy

Garland C. "Gary" Moore, Esq. Past District Governor (2008-2009) Rotary Club of Conyers



Statement of Conduct for Working with Youth

District 6910 strives to create and maintain a safe environment for all youth and young adults who participate in Rotary activities. To the best of their ability, Rotarians, Rotarians' spouses and partners, and other volunteers must safeguard the children and young adults they come into contact with and protect them from physical, sexual and emotional abuse.



Rotary District 6910 District Youth Programs

are a part of a separate legal entity known as:

Rotary International District 6910, Inc.

(incorporated under the laws of Georgia on May 15, 2006)



Rotary District 6910 Youth Protection Policy covers:

- ✓ EarlyAct
- ✓ Interact
- ✓ Rotaract
- ✓ Rotary Youth Exchange
- ✓ Georgia Rotary Student Program (GRSP)



Rotary Club Participation in <u>Rotary District 6910 Youth Programs *requires* that:</u>

- Clubs sign compliance statement that it is operating its program(s) in accordance with RI and D 6910 policies
- ✓ Confirmation of Volunteer Compliance with policies
- ✓ Copies of all Club informational materials be provided to District
- ✓ List of services in the area benefitting any potential victims
- ✓ Any Club Youth Protection Training Materials



Volunteer Selection and Screening Requires:

- ✓ Completion of volunteer agreement form
- ✓ Undergo a criminal background check
- ✓ Be interviewed (preferably in person)
- ✓ Provide a list of personal references with contact information
- ✓ Comply with RI and District Guidelines



Participant Selection and Screening (for Rotary Youth Exchange)

- ✓ Completion of written application
- ✓ Interview at Club and District Levels
- Attend and participate in all Club/District orientation and training sessions



Training:

 ✓ District 6910 Youth Protection Policy requires Youth Protection Training and Information to all Students <u>and</u> Volunteers. District
6910 Youth Protection Officer will conduct the training sessions.

✓ Training will cover:

- Adaptation of Rotary's Youth Protection Guide as necessary
- > Development of a training schedule
- Conduct of specialized training for all involved



Handling Allegations and Follow-Through

Allegations of abuse or harassment will be taken seriously and will be handled in accordance with the "Abuse and Harassment Allegation Reporting Guidelines" that will be found at Appendix B <u>and</u> the "Rotary Youth Protection Incident Report" found at Appendix E of the District 6910 Youth Protection Policy.



Travel by Youth

- ✓ Youth traveling outside of local community <u>must</u> comply with District 6910 Youth Protection Policies.
- ✓ <u>Must</u> obtain written permission from parents/legal guardians
- ✓ <u>Must</u> provide travel details to parents/legal guardians
- <u>Must</u> ensure that participants have adequate insurance if traveling more than 150 miles
- ✓ <u>Must</u> obtain authorization from District 6910 in advance of travel



District 6910 Youth Exchange Administration

There is a substantial checklist of items to be followed in the District 6910 Youth Protection Policy when dealing with Youth Exchange Students. Please read and adhere to the requirements set out therein.



Youth Protection Safeguards

Each Rotary Club shall review its own policies and bring them into conformity with the District 6910 Youth Protection Policy – which is the absolute minimum policy/guideline.



District 6910 Georgia Rotary Student Program (GRSP) Participation

District 6910 and its participating Rotary Clubs, along with the involved Rotarians, shall always adhere to the policies and guidelines established by the Georgia Rotary Student Program (GRSP).



Appendix B

Abuse and Harassment Allegation Reporting Guidelines

- Safety/well-being of program participants must always be top priority.
- Guidelines cover: Emotional or Verbal Abuse, Physical Abuse, Neglect, Sexual Abuse and/or Sexual Harassment
- > Program Participant Allegations are *private* not confidential.
- > Protect the young person.
- > Report allegations to appropriate authorities.
- > Remove the accused person from contact with youth.
- > Avoid gossip and blame.
- > Follow through.



Appendix C Youth Program Volunteer Application

Application form is in the District 6910 Youth Protection Policy



Appendix D Georgia Mandated Reporter Law

A copy of the pertinent statute is included within the District 6910 Youth Protection Policy



Appendix E

Rotary Youth Protection Incident Report

The two page Rotary Youth Protection Incident Report is included in the District 6910 Youth Protection Policy.



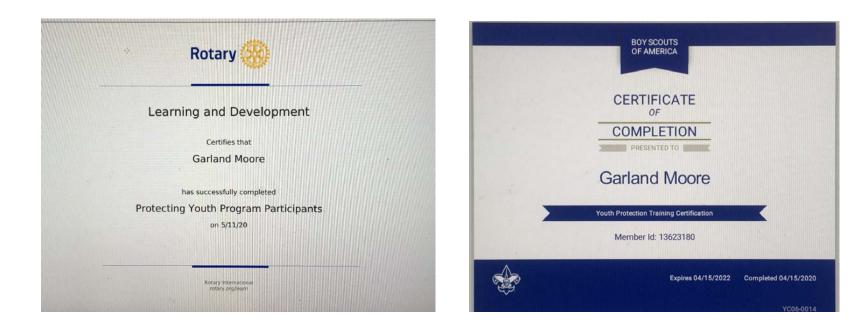
Appendix F

Resources for District 6910 Youth Protection Policy

- Visit Rotary's "The Learning Center" at <u>www.rotary.org</u> to earn your Learning and Development Completion Certificate for "Protecting Youth Program Participants" Training and also to obtain copies of:
 - ✓ Rotary's Youth Protection Guide
 - ✓ Rotary's Youth Exchange Handbook
 - ✓ Interact Guide for Rotary Club Sponsors and Advisers
 - ✓ RYLA Handbook
 - ✓ Rotary's Media Crisis Guide
- Write to Rotary at <u>youthprotection@rotary.org</u> with questions.
- Visit other youth organizations for best practices in youth protection.
- Consult pertinent sections of the Official Code of Georgia, Annotated.
- Feel free to contact District 6910 Youth Protection Officer.



Available Youth Protection Training Certificates to You!





My Contact Information:

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Thank you!